

offenses. (From a bill relating to crimes and punishments, 1779. F. II., 204.)

CUBA. — But, although with difficulty, he (Bonaparte) will consent to our receiving Cuba into our Union, to prevent our aid to Mexico and the other provinces. That would be a price and I would immediately erect a column on the southernmost limit of Cuba, and inscribe on it a *ne plus ultra* as to us in that direction. We should then have only to include the north in our Confederacy, which would be of course in the first war and we should have such an empire for liberty as she has never surveyed since creation; and I am persuaded no Constitution was ever before so well calculated as ours for extensive empire and self-government. * * * It will be objected to> our receiving Cuba that no limit can be drawn to our future acquisitions. Cuba can be defended by us without a navy, and thus develop the principle which ought to limit our views. Nothing should ever be accepted which would require a navy to defend it. (To James Madison, 1809. C. V., 444.)

CUBA. — Do we wish to acquire to our own Confederacy any one or more of the Spanish provinces? I candidly confess, that I have ever looked on Cuba as the most interesting addition which could ever be made to our system of States. The control which, with Florida Point, this island would give us over the Gulf of Mexico, and the countries and isthmus bordering on it, .as well as all those whose waters flow into it, would fill up the measure of our political well-being. Yet, as I am sensible that this can never be obtained, even with her own consent, but by war; and its independence, which is our second interest (and •especially its independence of England), can be secured without it, I have no hesitation in abandoning my first wish to future chances, and accepting its independence, with peace and the friendship of England, rather than its association, at the expense •of war and her enmity. (To James Monroe, 1823. C. VII.,

CUBA. — Cuba alone seems at present to hold up a speck of war to us. Its possession by Great Britain would indeed be a .great calamity to us. Could we induce her to join us in guar-